

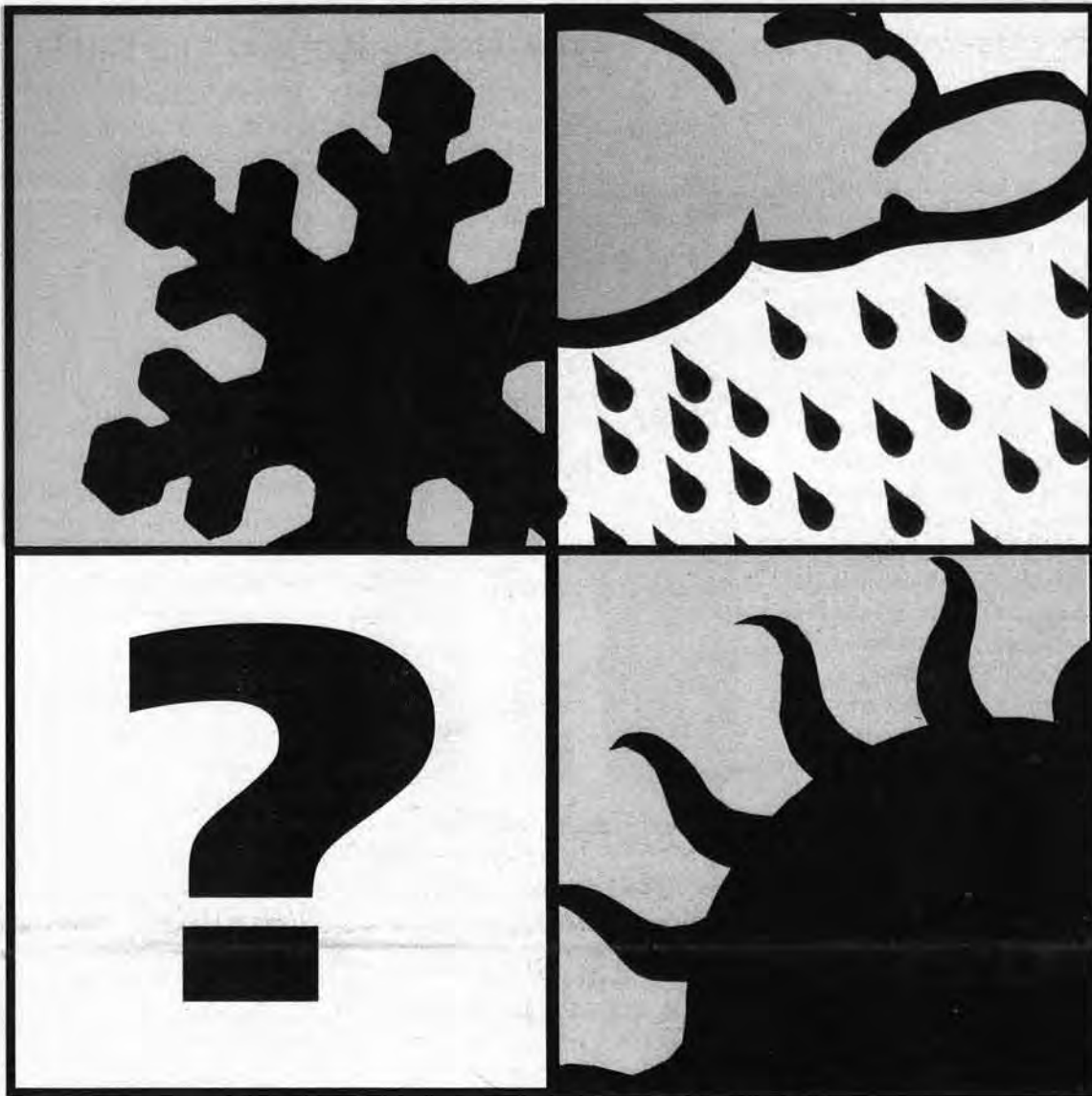
Outlook

THE UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND FACULTY AND STAFF WEEKLY NEWSPAPER

Volume 14 • Number 13 • November 30, 1999

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Why We Close... Or Not

The Inside Scoop From the Decision Makers

Few administrative actions at the University of Maryland cause as much controversy as the periodic decision about whether to close the university during inclement weather. Several times each winter, Provost Greg Geoffroy has to determine whether snow or icy conditions pose a threat to safety that is greater than the need to carry on the university's operations.

"Safety is the principal consideration," Geoffroy says. "Wet weather, snow and ice are usually uncomfortable and often inconvenient, but not always dangerous. Closing the university is a major undertaking that affects thousands of people, and many scheduled activities and projects. We can't do that lightly. Nor can we take a casual attitude toward safety issues."

The decision-making process begins about 4:30 a.m. on snow days, when Frank Brewer, assistant vice president for facilities management, arrives on campus to assess road, sidewalk and building conditions.

"I take note of road conditions as I drive in and on the campus," Brewer says. "I also check with UM Shuttle drivers who have been operating during the night to see what conditions they've experienced. Depth of snow is not necessarily a good predictor of conditions. The type of snow, temperatures and winds can make even a light dusting dangerous."

Last year, for example, Brewer recommended a delayed opening on a day when very little snow had fallen overnight, but it was a slick, dry snow that caused cars to slide and fishtail on campus roads.

Brewer and his staff also consult numerous forecasts to determine whether conditions will worsen or stabilize as the day goes on.

"We look at conditions throughout the area," Brewer says. "The vast majority of our students, faculty and staff commute from their homes and many of them may experience weather and road conditions quite different from what we have here on campus."

Brewer has created a weather center with numerous televisions and computers to monitor road conditions and forecasts from as many sources as possible.

Once he has gathered as much information as possible, Brewer advises Geoffroy on existing and predicted conditions. Geoffroy then has to choose whether to let the university stay open for the day, open late to allow snow removal equipment time to do its work, or close for the day.

"Frank Brewer gives me a lot of information upon which to base my decision," Geoffroy says. "In the end, I do what I think is in the best inter-

University to Appoint Panel to Study Quality of Diversity

Mote Announces Three-Step Response to Hate Incidents

In the wake of a series of disturbing racial threats and other bias-related incidents on campus recently, University of Maryland President Dan Mote has announced plans for a panel to recommend ways to improve the quality of diversity. This is part of a three-step plan to deal with issues of hate and bias crimes on campus.

Mote told the University Senate that he and the Senate will jointly establish a representative panel of senior faculty, staff and students to help the university "cultivate a quality of diversity that goes beyond representation and tolerance to create new levels of understanding."

Mote also said that the university is committed to an aggressive pursuit of the perpetrators of hate crimes, and that the campus police have enlisted the aid of the Federal Bureau of Investigation, the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division, the U.S. Attorney's Office and the state police, which provided additional troopers to campus after several African American student leaders received threats recently through campus mail.

The president also has called for a thorough review of procedures for dealing with hate crimes, to ensure not only that they are thoroughly investigated but also that victims are treated appropriately and receive information, protection and counseling as needed.

"Maryland has justly earned a national reputation for its efforts to promote diversity, but quality of diversity depends on interaction among diverse people much more than on counting heads," Mote said.

"We will assemble a panel of our best and brightest minds—thoughtful and committed individuals—to survey our environment and put their collective energies together to recommend to me ways to achieve greater quality in our diverse interactions on campus," he said.

Mote noted that media reports suggest that there is a growing trend toward incidents of hate and bias nationwide.

"Incidents of hate and intolerance appear to have increased in both frequency and intensity throughout the country," Mote said. "When they occur here, such acts are inimical to the basic sense of safety, security and respect that we absolutely must have for our students to learn, flourish and grow."

"We must address crimes of hate and threats of violence as criminal acts, to be sure, and we have taken aggressive steps to find the perpetrators of these acts and bring them to justice," Mote said.

"But that is not enough. We will ask this panel to help us understand as a community how such divisive and hateful activities can occur on a campus so diverse and so committed to respect, civility and individual dignity for all its members."

Campus police have reported an increase this fall in the number of reported incidents of hatred, bias, intimidation and threats directed at people because of their race, religion, ethnicity or sexual orientation.

The most flagrant incident involved threats and racial slurs delivered to several African American student leaders Nov. 16. In response to that incident, Mote organized a campus rally against hatred and created a reward fund for information leading to arrest and conviction that has grown to more than \$13,500.

"This reward fund is especially gratifying," Mote said. "Since my initial offer to put up \$1,000, more than a dozen people and organizations have voluntarily stepped up to pledge additional funds for this purpose. It is clear that the university's campaign against hate has a broad base of support."

Continued on page 6

New Program Will Help Enterprising Students

The University of Maryland is creating the nation's first living-learning entrepreneurship program that will bring together undergraduate students from different disciplines to study entrepreneurship, live and work together in a specially equipped dorm, and perhaps even create their own startup businesses.

"The University of Maryland already has many well-established, nationally recognized programs promoting entrepreneurship and technology innovation," says William Destler, vice president of research and dean of the graduate school. "Now, with the creation of the new Hinman Campus Entrepreneurship Opportunities Program, the university is taking a bold step toward becoming the world leader in the teaching and practice of entrepreneurship."

Beginning in the fall of 2000, the first 60 students will be admitted into the Hinman Campus Entrepreneurship Opportunities (CEOs) Program, a joint program of the University of Maryland's highly-ranked schools of business and engineering. Initiated with a \$1.7 million gift from Brian Hinman, engineering school alumnus and successful creator of three high-tech companies, the Hinman CEO's Program will bring together select upperclass students from business, engineering, computer science, life sciences and the liberal arts. Working individually and in teams, the students will learn how to create and manage new technology or business ventures. The students will live and do much of their learning in a special dorm that, in addition to residence rooms, will have offices, laboratories, and conference facilities with state-of-the-art computing, communications, and laboratory equipment.

Top Hinman entrepreneur teams will be provided an opportunity to start companies in the A. James Clark School of Engineering's Technology Advancement Program (TAP), an internationally acclaimed incubator for technology-based companies. The TAP is a part of the Clark School's Engineering Research Center, which assists companies by facilitating their access to research, technical assistance and other resources

offered by the University.

"This is a terrific program that will give entrepreneurial students a chance to develop their business ideas by living in community with like-minded people," says Hinman, president and CEO of 2Wire, a California-based developer of home-networking equipment, and chairman of Polycom, the leading provider of teleconferencing equipment. "The ultimate success of the program can be measured in the job creation that will result from the students graduating and starting new and prospering enterprises," says Hinman, who prior to founding both Polycom and 2Wire, started PictureTel, a leading provider of video conferencing equipment. "I just wish they'd had such a program in place when I was there!"

The university's launching of the Hinman entrepreneurs program will build on the spring 2000 initiation of an important new entrepreneurship curriculum program in the Robert H. Smith School of Business. The Entrepreneurship Citation Program is a curriculum of four undergraduate courses that will focus on the essential aspects involved in starting, managing, financing and developing growth strategies for new ventures. The program will culminate in a business plan for each new student venture.

Hinman entrepreneur students will be able to participate in the citation program as well as take advantage of other relevant programs of the university's Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship in the Smith School of Business. Nationally, the Dingman Center is ranked among the best in entrepreneurial business education, while the Smith School's MBA entrepreneurship curriculum ranks third in the nation.

"Graduates of the Hinman CEO's Program will be able to take away a lot of things from the program, but the most important will be knowledge and experience that will give their entrepreneurial ventures a much higher probability of success when compared with others," Destler says. "And the higher success rate for Hinman entrepreneur graduates will translate into more economic success for our state, region, and nation."

Brian Darmody Named Assistant VP for Research and Economic Development

Brian Darmody was recently promoted to assistant vice president for research and economic development under the newly created Office of Research and Graduate Education headed by Vice President for Research and Dean of Graduate Studies William Destler. All of this is part of President Dan Mote's plan to make the university a pre-eminent research institution.

Darmody, a long-time assistant in the president's office, started his career at the university as a legal counsel and was responsible for local, state and federal relations. More recently Darmody served as senior advisor for economic development.

In his legal and legislative duties Darmody developed a number of university research initiatives, including amending the state ethics law to allow faculty entrepreneurs into the university's high tech incubator; reformed state procurement policies to grant more flexibility to principal investigators; developed the university first technology transfer office; devised the capital budget strategy to build new technology incubators at the university and across the state; and created the university's first comprehensive web site of services the university offers to private sector businesses (www.onestopshop.umd.edu).

Two years ago Darmody created and successfully lobbied for legislation that creat-

ed the Maryland Technology Development Corporation, a quasi-public organization that will help Maryland universities and federal labs commercialize technology in a more efficient manner.

Darmody also advocated bringing a number of major capital projects to locations near campus, including the \$80 million FDA Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition, now under con-

struction adjacent to the College Park/University of Maryland Metro Station, and the American Center of Physics, home to the American Physical Society, the American Institute of Physics and other national physics organizations. Darmody was also involved in the recruitment of the \$60 million Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms National Laboratories relocation project to a site north of the campus.

Destler says that Darmody

will carry over his expertise to the research and graduate studies division. "He's going to spearhead our activities in the area of economic development and build support for federal research funding."

Darmody explains that the move will allow him to focus his efforts. "When the state legislature was in session I was devoting a lot of time defending the university's budget and other legislative matters," he says. Now Darmody has more time to devote to fostering external relationships with the Congressional delegation and business organizations to help the university grow into a more prominent research university.

"Dr. Mote wants to expand the university involvement in the private and federal sectors. Our research profile has grown tremendously over the years, and this is a very exciting part of the university's expanding mission in local and state economic development," says Darmody.

Ross Stern will be the new local and state government liaison in the president's office. Now that Darmody is a member of the research and graduate studies office, he plans to promote greater coherence among the many campus units delivering services to business in Maryland and in the region.



Brian Darmody

struction adjacent to the College Park/University of Maryland Metro Station, and the American Center of Physics, home to the American Physical Society, the American Institute of Physics and other national physics organizations. Darmody was also involved in the recruitment of the \$60 million Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms National Laboratories relocation project to a site north of the campus.

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What to Do about Electronic Junk Mail

The Office of Information Technology has received numerous inquiries over the past several weeks concerning the influx of unsolicited, commercial (or "junk") electronic mail received by university faculty and staff. While the university's acceptable use guidelines (see www.inform.umd.edu/aug) prohibit the sending of unsolicited electronic messages (including "mass mail," "chain mail" and "commercial messages") by users of our computing resources, it is difficult to prevent the unwanted e-mail from being received by university mail servers and even more difficult to identify and hold accountable the author of the message when it originates from a non-university Internet connection.

OIT advises university e-mail users to ignore these messages and delete them as appropriate. On the other hand, OIT encourages you to keep the message and contact Project NETHics (405.8787 or NETHics@umail.umd.edu) in the Office of Information Technology or the University of Maryland Police Department (405.3555) if you believe a message constitutes illegal activity, violates campus policy or is part of a pattern of behavior. More information is also available from an earlier Outlook article (see www.inform.umd.edu/outlook/1998-04-07/click.html).

Outlook

Outlook is the weekly faculty-staff newspaper serving the University of Maryland campus community. **Brodie Remington**, Vice President for University Relations; **Teresa Flannery**, Executive Director of University Communications and Director of Marketing; **George Cathcart**, Executive Editor; **Jennifer Hawes**, Editor; **Londa Scott Forté**, Assistant Editor; **David Abrams**, Graduate Assistant; **Erin Madison**, Editorial Intern. Letters to the editor, story suggestions and campus information are welcome. Please submit all material two weeks before the Tuesday of publication. Send material to Editor, Outlook, 2101 Turner Hall, College Park, MD 20742. Telephone (301) 405-4629; e-mail outlook@accmail.umd.edu; fax (301) 314-9344. Outlook can be found online at www.inform.umd.edu/outlook/

Christine Clark Named Executive Director of Human Relations

Christine Clark of the University of Cincinnati has been named executive director of the Office of Human Relations, effective Jan. 2, President Dan Mote announced last week.

Currently associate professor and coordinator of the Urban Educational Leadership Doctoral Program at Cincinnati, Clark has a broad background in multi-cultural education and programming in higher education.

"I am delighted that Christine Clark has agreed to provide leadership for the continuing development of a culture of diverse people enriching each others' experiences by learning and working together," says Mote. "It is more important than ever for us to assert our values and goals as we confront the forces that would spread hatred and intolerance in society and even on campus."

"Christine has a national reputation as an energetic, passionate, visionary leader in the field of diversity enhancement and training," Mote says. "She will further establish us a place that honors and respects all people, of all races, religions, ethnicities and sexual orientations."

Clark has taught and administered programs to foster diversity at every educational level, from elementary school to graduate school, in New Mexico and Massachusetts, as well as in her current position in Ohio.

"I look forward to the opportunity to further the development of human relations programs at the University of Maryland," says Clark.

"Maryland has come a long way to earn respect and establish its role as a leader among universities that value diversity and the strength of multi-culturalism. I am honored by Dr. Mote's confidence in me."

In 1998-99, while an assistant professor of education at New Mexico State University, she was a Fulbright Senior Scholar with the U.S.-

Mexico Commission for Educational and Cultural Exchange. Clark is a nationally known speaker and writer on diversity topics.

Clark's new book, "Becoming and Unbecoming White: Owning and Disowning a Racial Identity," was published recently by Greenwood Press. It is a primer on how whites can develop an anti-

racist consciousness.

Clark has her bachelor's degree from Franklin and Marshall College in Pennsylvania, and her master's and doctoral degrees from the University of Massachusetts.

"Christine has a national reputation as an energetic, passionate, visionary leader in the field of diversity enhancement and training,"

—Dan Mote,

University President

Senate Confirms Ira Berlin as Presidential Appointee to Humanities Advisory Board

Ira Berlin, distinguished university professor of history, was among seven persons confirmed by the U.S. Senate as a presidential appointee to serve on the National Council on the Humanities - the 26-member advisory board for the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). Berlin begins his six-year term during the National Council's spring 2000 meeting in Washington, D.C.

"It is a pleasure to welcome such a distinguished historian as Ira Berlin to the National Council on the Humanities," says NEH Chairman William R. Ferris. "He is an admired leader in his field, and will contribute immensely toward providing the keen insight and judgement that will help guide the NEH as we look ahead to the new millennium."

"Ira Berlin has had a phenomenal year," says James Harris, dean of the College of Arts and Humanities. "His research has long been recognized for its groundbreaking value, but the international attention his recently published works gained for him and his selection to the National Endowment for the Humanities bring ever greater distinction."

A preeminent historian and award-winning author, Berlin uniquely masters the ability to restore stories dating back to the first slaves brought to the Americas. In an era when many Americans struggle with slavery's legacy — battling over such issues as affirmative action, official apologies and lingering prejudices—they lack a true picture of the long, complex and varied history of slavery. His recent books, *Many Thousands Gone* and *Remembering Slavery: African Americans Talk About Their Personal Experiences of Slavery and Emancipation*, were released with widespread acclaim and address the issues of diversity among slave life in North America.

Created in 1965 as an independent federal agency, the NEH supports learning in history, literature, philosophy and other area of the humanities. Grants sponsored by the NEH enrich classroom learning, create and preserve knowledge and bring ideas to life through public television, radio, new technologies, museum exhibition, and programs in libraries and other community places.

Maryland Psychology Center Offers Affordable, High Quality Services

Tucked away on the second floor of the Zoology- Psychology Building the Maryland Center for Anxiety Disorders and the Psychology Clinic are discreetly providing closely supervised, high quality services to the community, at a reasonable price. Also benefitting from the clinics are the graduate students in the clinical psychology program, who are receiving hands-on training and experience in treating patients. The center also provide opportunities for faculty and student research.

"Whether patients are depressed, anxious or have study or work problems, they can call here," says Robert Brown, director of the Psychology Clinic and associate professor of psychology. "We're not set up to handle emergencies," he says, but the clinics do see numerous patients each week, whether individuals, couples or families.

"Patients here are usually seen by students, not faculty," says Brown. "These are advanced graduate students who have been coached and taught by their supervisors (faculty)." In addition, says Brown, most sessions are recorded on videotape for additional review by the supervisor.

"We deal with psycho-social issues here," says Brown, "we don't have the capacity to prescribe medications." The faculty who supervise in the clinics are licensed psychologists who have expertise in anxiety disorders (such as obsessions, compulsions and phobias), seri-

ous mental illness and other types of emotional problems. Couples and families also are assisted whether they are seeking to enhance their relationships or have problems, says Brown.

Brown says he hopes the department will hire faculty who work specifically with children. Until then, only the anxiety clinic is staffed to see children.

Fees for the clinic, which are on a sliding scale, are modest, starting at \$10 per session. Faculty and staff who wish to use the clinic, says Brown, would be charged either on a sliding scale, or at the co-pay rate they would pay through their medical insurance, whichever is less.

Brown conducts telephone interviews, or intakes, to determine the client's area of need. He then refers that client to the appropriate supervisor within the clinic.

During the intake, Brown tells the patient he or she will be seen by students under supervision. He also determines their income level to give an estimate of what the session will cost them.

Colanda Howard a fourth year graduate student in clinical psychology, says having the professors as supervisors makes for a better relationship and experience. "You get educated very quickly as each patient brings in differ-

ent problems and the supervisor provides direction.

"We see mostly anxiety patients, right now," says Howard. "But we may get a patient into the clinic who, for example, suffers from depression. A supervisor can guide you as to what do, what is needed. It teaches you how to adjust to each situation."

"Whether patients are depressed, anxious or have study or work problems, they can call here,"

—Robert Brown,

Psychology Clinic Director

"We used to place our students in a wide variety of agencies," says Brown. "Now we can supervise them here where we can closely oversee their training before sending them to internships."

Prior to meeting with the client, the student talks with his or her supervisor to discuss the patient's situation. "This is very much a training clinic," says Howard. "The supervisors change each semester, so you get experience work-

ing with different styles.

"Training here is almost like coursework, where you're being taught a hands-on-skill," says Howard. "The way the set-up is, it's almost like 'E.R.' where you learn as you go."

Prior to the opening of the clinic, Howard says students went outside the university to get their clinical experience. Hers was at a prison in Maryland. "We didn't like the travel, and here we were in our first year, second semester going into a prison. Now the legwork for students is reduced, because they're bringing the training here," she says.

Nancy Heiser, a second year graduate student in clinical psychology, works in both the anxiety disorders and the general clinic. She estimates, of the two to three patients she sees each week, 60 percent are from outside campus, 40 percent on campus.

"This is very positive for students and the community," says Heiser.

"There weren't a lot of anxiety clinics available in the community before this one opened," she says.

Brown says he hopes the clinic will be a community resource. "The sliding scale is greatly appreciated by patients," he says. He also encourages faculty and staff to take advantage of the clinic if they are interested. "If they don't know whether or not we have services useful to them," says Brown, call the Maryland Psychology Center at 405-4808.

dateline maryland

Your Guide to University Events
November 30 - December 9

November 30

3 p.m. Lecture: "The Internet, Electronic Media, Trust and Civil Society," Ric Uslaner, department of government and politics. 0117 Reckord Armory.

4 p.m. Physics Colloquia: "The Acceleration of the Solar Wind," Leonard Fisk, University of Michigan. 1410 Physics Bldg.

December 1

7:30 a.m. Dingman Center for Entrepreneurship: "Finding the Right Partnership-Choosing a Financial Partner," James Harvey, CEO of Ikimbo, Inc. Pooks Hill Marriott, Bethesda, Md. 403-4290.*

Noon. Center for Health and Wellbeing Brown Bag Lunch: "Osteoporosis." Learn about osteoporosis and how exercise and diet can help. 0121 Campus Recreation Center. 4-1280.

Noon. Research & Development Seminar: "The Impact of Community Violence on Preschool Children and Their Families," Sally Koblinsky, Family Studies. 0114 Counseling Center, Shoemaker Bldg.

4 p.m. Astronomy Colloquia: "Gamma-Ray Bursts as a Probe of the Very High-Redshift Universe," Donald Lamb, University of Chicago. 2400 Computer & Space Sciences Bldg.

4:30-6 p.m. Institute for Chinese Global Affairs Lecture: "China's Military and China's Security," David Shambaugh, director of political science and international affairs, George Washington University. 2102 Shoemaker Bldg. 5-0213.

December 2

4 p.m. Meteorology Lecture: Louis Uccellini, director of the National Centers for Environmental Predictions, NOAA/NWS. 2400 Computer and Space Sciences Bldg.

4 p.m. Committee on the History and Philosophy of Science Lecture Series: "Concatenation of Scientific and Technical Book Publishing in the United States," Marcel LaFollette, George Washington University. 1117 Francis Scott Key Bldg. 5-5691.

6:30 p.m. WMUC FM 20th Anniversary Party. Celebrate 20 years of 10 watts. Featuring six bands, four DJs, and cake. Rachel Weintraub. 4-7867 or wmuc.umd.edu.

8 p.m. University Theatre: "Julius Caesar," a play by William Shakespeare. Tawes Fine Arts Bldg. 5-7847 or www.inforM.umd.edu/THET/plays.*

December 3

8 p.m. University Theatre: "Julius Caesar," a play by William Shakespeare. Tawes Fine Arts Bldg. 5-7847 or www.inforM.umd.edu/THET/plays.*

December 4

9:30 a.m. - 4 p.m. Institute for Global Chinese Affairs Conference: "Huizhou Historical Archives and Culture." Huizhou Culture often refers to the unique political, social, commercial and arts traditions originating from southern Anhui and is regarded as the third most important regional Chinese culture, next only to Tibet and Dunhuang Caves. Lecture Room, National Archives II, 8601 Adelphi Rd. 5-0213 or rm165@umail.umd.edu.

8 p.m. Annual Christmas Concert. Memorial Chapel. 5-5570.*

8 p.m. University Theatre: "Julius Caesar," a play by William Shakespeare. Tawes Fine Arts Bldg. 5-7847 or www.inforM.umd.edu/THET/plays.*

December 5

2 p.m. Annual Christmas Concert. Memorial Chapel. 5-5570.*

8 p.m. University Theatre: "Julius Caesar," a play by William Shakespeare. Tawes Fine Arts Bldg. 5-7847 or www.inforM.umd.edu/THET/plays.*

5 p.m. Annual Christmas Concert. Memorial Chapel. 5-5570.*

December 7

4 p.m. Physics Colloquium: "Recent Discoveries in Gamma Ray Burst Astrophysics," Neil Gehrels, NASA-Goddard. 1410 Physics Bldg.

8 p.m. School of Music: "20th Century Winds." Tawes Fine Arts Bldg. 5-7847.

December 8

Noon. Center for Health and Wellbeing Brown Bag Lunch: "Stress Management." Learn stress management techniques and discuss how to reduce stress in your life. 0121 Campus Recreation Center. 4-1280.

7 p.m. Writers Here and Now Speaker Series featuring Michael Cunningham, winner of the PEN/Faulkner Award and the Pulitzer Prize for his novel, "The Hours." Fourth Floor, McKeldin Library.

7:30 p.m. School of Music: Winter Jazz Showcase Concert. Experience the talent from the university's two premiere jazz classes—the Jazz Ensemble and Jazz Lab Band—as they perform under the direction of director of jazz studies, Chris Vadala.

Meshkin Brothers Create a Surfbuzz on the Internet

A college degree is great, but having a whiz kid brother doesn't hurt either.

After earning his degree in government and politics from the University of Maryland, interning on Capitol Hill and working in the private sector, Brian Meshkin decided to team up with his younger brother Alex to earn big bucks on the Internet. They formed their own company, Surfbuzz.com.

The Meshkin brothers launched their promotional Web site yesterday. Surfbuzz combines everyday Web surfing with direct marketing. The site generates revenue from advertisers, while consumers use it to get free stuff. Members can keep up with financial news, chat, e-mail and search the Internet while earning "BuzzPoints" for each action they do online. They can then use the points to purchase various products.

Nineteen-year-old Alex planned to follow in his 23-year-old brother's footsteps at the University of Maryland, but the lure of entrepreneurship was too strong. Like other young "techie" businessmen, the brothers decided

to forgo cubicles and job security for the promising but uncertain business world. "I always took a unique approach toward everything, always looking for an alternative way to make money, to start my own business," Alex says. His business career began at Glenelg High School in Howard County, where he sold candy out of his locker. Alex

also discovered a knack for the stock market in a government class mock stock market exercise. He multiplied the funny money his teacher allotted each student ten times.

Surfbuzz members can use their BuzzPoints in an online "BuzzAuction," where they bid on over 40,000 products like cars, trips and Super Bowl tickets. For the promotional site, a Porsche Boxter is on the auc-

tion block.

Membership to Surfbuzz.com is free. And Alex says Surfbuzz members can get something for free every day. "The first day you join the site, you may win a CD," he says. Besides cars and trips, the auctions have smaller items that require only a small amount of points.

Like other successful Web companies such as Amazon.com and Ebay.com, Surfbuzz hopes to find its niche in cyberspace.

Competitors like AllAdvantage.com and Beenz.com are similar to Surfbuzz, but those companies require users to purchase items in order to earn points. "We reward you for what you're already doing," says Brian.

The company is based in Atlanta, Ga., where many of the companies' executives formerly worked for giants like World Airways and NASCAR. President Mike Jensen, as well as vice presidents Paul Krause and

Carolyn Reeves O'Brien came to Surfbuzz from Georgia-based Coca-Cola.

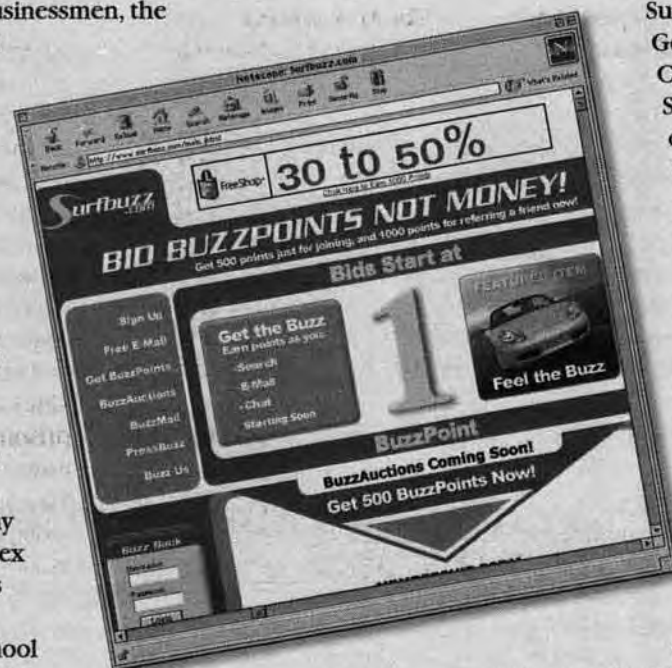
Surfbuzz also has offices in Orem, Utah, where the software and programming work is primarily done, and New York City.

Alex and Brian are still forming the company—now 17 employees strong—and soliciting advertisers. The brothers

are co-founders, co-chairmen, and co-CEOs. They admit that they're not all business—the endeavor is fun, too.

"Working with your brother is a wonderful experience in the sense that you've been working together a long time and it's someone you trust," says Brian. Togetherness has its drawbacks, though. They are around each other so much, they never know when the workday stops.

—DAVID ABRAMS



Colony Ballroom, Stamp Student Union. 5-5542 or mb287@umail.umd.edu.

December 9

Noon. Institute for Chinese Global Affairs Brown Bag Lunch: "Research in Modern Chinese Literature: 'The Dream Chamber,'" Yuh-wen Kuo, National Taiwan University. The talk will be given in Chinese. 5-0213.*

4 p.m. Meteorology Lecture: "Oceanic Normal Modes and Applications to Problems of Ocean Tides and Circulation," D.B. Rao, National Centers for Environmental Prediction, NOAA. 2400 Computer and Space Sciences Bldg.

Calendar Guide

Calendar phone numbers listed as 4-xxxx or 5-xxxx stand for the prefix 314- or 405. Events are free and open to the public unless noted by an asterisk (*). Calendar information for Outlook is compiled from a combination of inforM's master calendar and submissions to the Outlook office.

To reach the calendar editor, call 405-7615 or e-mail Outlook@accmail.umd.edu.

Confederate Prisoner's Sketchbook Viewed by Great Grandson

Almost 135 years ago, in a Civil War prison camp at Point Lookout, a young Confederate prisoner recorded his experiences in captivity in an extraordinary watercolor sketchbook containing 62 bound drawings. Recently, the soldier's great grandson came to the University Libraries to view for the first time this sketchbook, which has been housed in the Maryland Manuscripts Collection since 1989.

Richard M. Brooks Sr., the great grandson of John Jacob Omenhauser, the prison artist, came from his Richmond, Va., home to see not only the sketchbook at the Libraries but two other similar notebooks, one at the Maryland Historical Society in Baltimore, and the other at the Maryland State Archives in Annapolis. These two sketchbooks of prison life during the Civil War, plus a

third book housed at Allegheny College in Meadville, Pa., are also believed to be the work of Omenhauser.

Ross Kimmel, a supervisor in the Department of National Resources in Annapolis and a Civil War historian, accompanied Brooks and his wife during their state of Maryland visits. It was Kimmel who, in the course of his research, apprised Brooks of the sketchbooks and their whereabouts.

After looking at the three sketchbooks, Brooks concluded that the one at the University Libraries surpassed the other two in clarity and artistic quality. Each of the 62 drawings is titled and annotated with humorous captions and ink inscriptions identifying specific buildings, figures and events.

The Austria-born Omenhauser had lived in



Shirley and Richard Brooks view the sketchbook of his great grandfather, John Jacob Omenhauser.



Richmond for 30 years when he enlisted as a private in Company A, 46th Virginia Infantry, in 1861. Captured and released soon after in 1862 in a prisoner exchange, he served with his unit until 1864 when he was captured a second time near Petersburg, Va., and sent to Point Lookout.

Omenhauser's work provides a detailed record of prison life at Point Lookout, now a Maryland state park. Though not a professional artist, he had some basic skills as a draftsman. Impoverished

prisoners at Point Lookout, such as Omenhauser, often capitalized on whatever manual skills they had to produce items for sale or barter. He likely produced numerous collections of cartoons for sale or trade and, in turn, obtained brushes and ink necessary for his work.

A year after his release from Point Lookout, Omenhauser married and subsequently supported his wife and two daughters as a candy maker. He died in 1877 and is buried in Richmond.

Soon after the Omenhauser notebook was obtained by the Libraries, it was sent out for conservation treatment. Most of the interest in the watercolor sketchbook, according to Lauren Brown, curator of Archives & Manuscripts, comes from art, history and American studies students and faculty. Brown also notes that a museum has expressed an interest in borrowing the booklet for an exhibit.

Campus Workshop Sparks Dialogue on White Awareness

Thirty-five members of the campus community participated in a white awareness workshop titled "To Be(come) or to Un-Be(come)? A Critical Examination of Whiteness Studies" on Nov. 5.

The goal of the workshop was to engage participants in a critical dialogue on whiteness studies within both personal and sociopolitical spheres.

"Ultimately, the goal of the workshop was to examine manifestations of white privilege and racism at the university and to develop strategies for addressing and eliminating them," says Paul Gorski, co-facilitator of the workshop and coordinator of the Student Intercultural Learning Center (SILC) within the Office of Human Relations Programs.

"Part of the rea-

son whiteness studies have recently become so popular is because people finally got a clue that it is no longer okay for me, as a white person, to sit around and wait for people of color to solve racism problems. It is my obligation as a white person to understand the role of my race in racism," adds Gorski.

Issues surrounding whiteness and whiteness studies were addressed at the workshop, but the majority of the afternoon surrounded a dialogue about privilege. Small group discussions and an experiential activity called "Cross-Walk" sparked this discussion. Participants at the workshop determined that "whiteness" is a very complex issue because people have different dimensions of identity, e.g., ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, religion and social class.

Defining this concept is important in the development process. According to Gorski, the starting point is to reflect on oneself before moving on to some type of action.

"It [the workshop] was a very

good time to start exploring the idea of whiteness. We had a good dialogue and began to focus on the issue," says Linda Sarigol, the film collectors supervisor with the University Libraries.

A discussion about racial and gender issues at the university illustrated that changes still need to be made. Workshop participants who experienced racism or had examples of privilege at the university shared their stories. These stories gave other workshop participants concrete examples that there is still work to do at both a university and societal level.

"The workshop was excellent, but it is a shame that some of the directors and administrators did not attend. I see the same faces at these diversity-related events, which makes me question very deeply whether the 'administration' and the people with 'decision power' have a commitment to these issues. They need to show a commitment with action," says Ron Abbit, assistant director of Campus Recreation Services.

Gorski, a Ph.D. graduate from the University of Virginia, in educational evaluation, facilitated the workshop with Miriam Phields, a doctoral student and intern in the Counseling Center.

Gorski wrote his dissertation about racial and gender identity in white male multicultural educators and facilitators. His study focused on the individual processes of self-development. "It is the process of examining my own experience that moves me forward," says Gorski.

"I hope this workshop introduced a conversation about whiteness and, ultimately, I hope it comes to what we can do on this campus to break through and address racism and privilege in the future," says Gorski.

*Note: There will be another event related to white awareness on Tuesday, Nov. 30, 6-8p.m., in the Cambridge Community Center, Room 1111. This event is a cinema and conversation session focused on "White Privilege." Cinema will be used to spark dialogue about this important topic. It is co-sponsored by Office of Human Relations Programs, National Conference for Community Justice, College Park Scholars, and the Academy of Leadership. Contact Bridget Turner, 5-8190 or bt38@umail.umd.edu

—JAMIE FEEHERRY-SIMMONS



**DIVERSITY
AT UMCP
MOVING
TOWARD
COMMUNITY**

Why We Close... Or Not

continued from page 1

est of the university community as a whole.

"Sometimes, what's best for the whole university is still not in the best interests of every individual," Geoffroy says. "Weather conditions vary considerably across the region, and while travel may be safe for the vast majority of us, it may not be for everyone.

"We encourage faculty and supervisors to exercise leniency with regard to absences on those days. If people can't get here safely, they should not be unduly penalized.

"We also encourage faculty to make every effort to let students know if they are unable to come to class on those days. The easiest way is to record a voice mail message informing their students that class is canceled. Many students have expressed frustration to me when they come to school on snowy days only to find that their professors have canceled class."

Geoffroy also notes that he

decides the university's status independently of what other schools, colleges and universities may do.

"We all have different considerations," he says. "Even University College, which is adjacent to us, may close on days when conditions are quite safe here on campus. They conduct programs at numerous

"We encourage faculty and supervisors to exercise leniency with regard to absences on those days. If people can't get here safely, they should not be unduly penalized."

—Greg Geoffroy, Provost

other facilities, including schools and community colleges, which may be closed. So they are at the mercy of those facilities. We will make every effort to stay open as long as safety is not jeopardized."

Are We Open or Not?

How to Find Out Reliably

Winter is just around the corner, bringing with it the promise of the holiday season, leafless trees and Terps basketball. What's less certain at this time is whether the Redskins will be playing football in January and whether the university will be open or closed when snow storms blow in.

With thousands of members of the university family living miles from the College Park campus, getting the word out broadly and in a timely fashion is critical. As the campus official responsible for announcing whether the university will close for the day, open late, close early or stay open in spite of the weather, I want to be certain that you know how to get reliable, timely information.

Normally, when the weather is marginal or worse, Provost Greg Geoffroy makes a decision about the university's status between 5 and 5:30 a.m. (see accompanying story) and communicates that decision to me. I then start making a series of phone calls that trigger the placement of the announcement on the university's Web site, on its weather emergency phone line and in the news media that carry school status announcements.

Those are the three places where you can get information about the university's status during inclement weather: the university Web site (www.maryland.edu), the telephone line 301-405-SNOW (7669) and the area's radio and television stations. The first two are reliable

and have information by 6 a.m. on snow days, whether we're open or not.

We also work hard with local radio and television stations to get the word out, but they are not as reliable as the information sources we control ourselves.

We notify more than two dozen TV and radio stations throughout the Baltimore-Washington area when we close or open late. Unfortunately, the message sometimes gets garbled by the media. For example, many of them don't distinguish between University of Maryland, College Park and University of Maryland University College. Channel 4 in Washington last year twice failed to announce we were closed after we had notified them, and this fall, when Hurricane Floyd brushed by, they announced we were closed when we weren't.

The best source will be the university's Web site, because we can put more information there than in any other medium. For example, we can post details about the weather forecasts and conditions that lead to decisions about closing. The Web site also provides users an opportunity to provide comments about weather-related operations, which will be forwarded to decision-makers.

Have a great, safe winter!

—GEORGE CATHCART,
DIRECTOR, UNIVERSITY RELATIONS

MacGregor Burns Compares the Leadership Styles of Eleanor and Hillary

Earlier this month, acclaimed author James MacGregor Burns took a break from his book tour to talk to students, staff and faculty about first ladies Eleanor Roosevelt and Hillary Clinton. The brown bag lunch chat, "Eleanor and Hillary: A Comparison of Leadership Styles," was held Nov. 15 at the Academy of Leadership in Taliaferro Hall.

Burns recently published "Dead Center: Clinton-Gore Leadership and the Perils of Moderation," co-written by Georgia J. Sorenson, chronicling the "troika" of Hillary, Bill, and Al Gore. In addition to his research on Hillary Clinton for "Dead Center," Burns also has first-hand knowledge of Roosevelt from his years as a White House intern during the depression. The Women's Committee in the Academy of Leadership asked him to contrast the two women as the nation mulls a possible Senate run by Clinton.

The hour-long lecture and discussion was divided into two parts half, devoting equal time to the lives of Roosevelt and Clinton.

Burns highlighted several qualities the two women have in common, such as coming from well-off families, good schooling and often-adversarial relationships with the press. They both committed their share of political faux pas and both struggled with unfaithful husbands. They have both been criticized for using their positions to affect political change rather than assuming more traditional roles as first ladies.

Burns described Roosevelt as individual more interested in furthering the liberal cause than maintaining a household. Early in FDR's political career, Eleanor

made the unfortunate gaffe of telling reporters that the first family was "getting along" with 11 servants—not a popular statement to make during the depression. But that experience and her presence on the campaign train with her husband taught her the ropes of politics. She always fought her husband over the Republican aspects of the New Deal, Burns said. He credited her for being a powerful leader on the home front during the war and caring for her husband during a horrible bout with polio that confined him to a wheelchair.

As an intern in 1941 Burns remembered being invited by Eleanor Roosevelt to a special dinner with other staff members. World War II broke out that day, and he was sure the event would be cancelled, but Roosevelt honored the invitation. Burns credited her with always honoring her commitments. "She was a real political pro," he said. "When she said she would be somewhere, by God, she was going to be on time."

Roosevelt went on after her stint as first lady to make multiple contributions to society as an author, columnist and United Nations ambassador. Burns called the Universal Declaration of Human Rights she helped compose as chairperson of the United Nations Human Rights Commission "one of the greatest documents of all time."

In 1918 Eleanor found love letters documenting a long affair between her husband and her social secretary. Although the affair was quite tame by today's standards, Eleanor's self-esteem was shattered by the dis-

covery. But Burns said the couple became closer as a result, largely because FDR knew that the political fallout from a divorce would be detrimental to his career. Burns said Hillary Clinton's uncomfortable initiation into politics mirrors Eleanor's in many ways. "She fumbles a bit while finding her way," said Burns, who called the press response in the aftermath of her failed national healthcare campaign a "huge overreaction." "Defeat is the name of reform," he said, "because change is difficult."

Comparing Hillary Clinton the politician to her husband, Burns said he considers her more forthright and equally policy-minded. But he said the first lady lacks the President's skills of "transactional leadership," a term used to describe Clinton's ability to barter political favors in order to pass the programs most important to him.

Many members of the audience were interested in Burns' take on Hillary Clinton's New York Senate campaign. "I don't really understand her ambition to be a Senator," said Burns. He does not think that Hillary will run. He noted that the Senate is about compromise and not suited

for individuals like Republican New York City Mayor Giuliani or Clinton. "Neither of them is going to be happy in the Senate," he said.

Burns said that Hillary Clinton's most important contribution is the example she sets for other women. He considers her a trailblazer for women in politics, much like Eleanor Roosevelt was for her time. "[Roosevelt] carried off that role so well," he said, "that she's paved the way for other people."

—DAVID ABRAMS



Eleanor Roosevelt



Hillary Clinton

Master Forecaster: Rasmusson Continues to Weather the Storm

"Mother Nature is perverse," says Eugene Rasmusson with a laugh. The 70-year-old senior research scientist in the department of meteorology should know. He has spent his life studying the weather.

Beginning with his childhood on the Kansas prairie during the Dust Bowl days and continuing through a half-century long, distinguished career, Rasmusson has been observing the weather. Driving him is a desire to understand the intricacies and complex interactions of the atmosphere, land, rivers and sea.

Rasmusson is one of the world's best known experts on the "El Niño" phenomenon, the irregular warming of the waters of the eastern equatorial Pacific off the coast of Peru roughly every two to five years. It is associated with air pressure and wind pattern changes that alter the weather, sometimes disastrously, in nearly every corner of the world.

Recently, Rasmusson was inducted into the National Academy of Engineering for his contributions to understanding climate variability and establishing the basis for practical predictions of El Niño.

Rasmusson is accustomed to answering questions about how El Niño is likely to affect winter weather. He obliges them with his friendly demeanor and patient way of explaining things, frequently telling reporters what a typical "El Niño" winter weather pattern is likely to entail for different parts of the world: wetter, drier, colder or warmer.

Having been an operational and research meteorologist, he can also explain how and why weather forecasting has improved dramatically in the last 40 years. He readily concedes, though, what drives the decades' long—and centuries' long global weather patterns remains a mystery. "Mother Nature is always ready to throw a curve ball," he says. This happened in 1983, when he published a famous article on the El Niño phenomenon during the biggest recorded El Niño of the century. "It followed none of the composite pictures" he had developed.

Born on an isolated Kansas farm in February 1929, Rasmusson was the oldest of five boys and two girls. His ethnic Swedish and Norwegian parents had come to the states from Scandinavia in the 1870s.

Rasmusson came of age in the decade of the Great Depression. It was also the decade of the Dust Bowl, when a series of unprecedented droughts in the Great Plains devastated farming life.

Farming was the only way of life that had been known for generations and the Dust Bowl was one of Mother Nature's cruelest curve balls ever. Between trying to grow wheat and raise cattle during the worst of the Dust Bowl years, young Eugene took an early interest in the weather. As he explains it, "Life on the farm, where weather was so crucial, oriented me toward paying attention to the weather."

Of that time, he says, "farm life was Spartan." The family had no running water and no electricity.

He attended school through the eighth grade in a one-room schoolhouse. His parents had never gone beyond the eighth grade and his father "wasn't thrilled" when his oldest son decided to go to high school in Lindsborg, a tiny town of 200 people.

But Rasmusson was delighted to live there with his maternal grandmother. The house had electricity and running water. "For the first time in my life, I could flush a toilet," he laughs. Town life was a major and welcome change from the rigors of farm life. "I didn't have to milk the cows," he adds.

Following high school, Rasmusson decided to go to college. "This was really the only method of escape from the farm," he says. Beginning in the fall of 1946, he went to Kansas State College in Manhattan, Kansas.

Degree options were mostly engineering related. Meteorology programs were almost non-existent.

Rasmusson majored in civil engineering, graduating in 1950 with a bachelor of science degree. He also signed up for the four-year advanced ROTC program,

which got him a reserved commission. This was to prove fortuitous when the Korean War broke out that year.

In May 1951, Rasmusson was ordered to Warren Air Force Base in Cheyenne, Wyo., ending a brief stint with the Kansas State Highway Commission as a surveyor. He was sent to Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio, Tex., where he was given a battery of tests to see where he would be most useful. The result: either research and development or meteorology.

He made his choice, and in the fall of 1951, was sent to the meteorology department at the University of Washington in Seattle for a one-year, non-degree training program. His first forecasting job began in 1952 at Vance Air Force Base in Enid, Okla. From there, he was sent to Elmendorf Air Force Base in Anchorage, Alaska, to work as a forecast shift chief in the Alaska Weather Center.

Following his 1955 discharge, Rasmusson spent six months working for the Pacific Telephone Company before becoming "lonesome for meteorology." He wrote to the U.S. Weather Bureau (predecessor to today's National Weather Service) and landed a job in the river forecast center, where he was responsible for forecasting Mississippi River stages above Cairo, Ill. In 1960, he got a job as a state forecaster for southeastern Missouri.

That same year, Rasmusson got married—on a sweltering August day in the tiny town of Newmindin, Ill. "It was so hot, I thought I'd die that day," he reminisces. Next year, he and his wife, Georgene, celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. They have four daughters and three grandchildren.

In the early '60s, Rasmusson took night courses at St. Louis University in a mechanical engineering master's degree program, and graduated in the spring of 1963. The idea of a formal graduate degree in meteorology "still never entered my mind" says Rasmusson. However, that summer he was asked by his Weather Bureau supervisor to take a one-year assignment at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) department of meteorology.

"It was so awesome, so great, second to none," says Rasmusson of MIT's meteorology department. All the great weather scientists were there, including the people who first devised the concept of numerical weather forecasts in the 1940s and 1950s. When the one-year assignment was extended to two, he enrolled as a formal Ph.D. student, earning his Ph.D. in meteorology from MIT in 1966.

Over the next two decades, Rasmusson worked on research designed to see if computer models could accurately mimic the observed general circulation pattern of the atmosphere. He helped prepare what was for a long time the "bible" of the general circulation model: "The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Professional Paper 5, September 1971, Atmospheric Circulation Statistics." Computer model outputs for years were compared to the statistics, based on years of observational data, presented in this book.

Rasmusson did not turn to El Niño-related work until the 1970s. It was, as he describes it, one of the "targets of opportunity...a plum waiting to be picked." The contributing factors, he says, were a new NOAA emphasis on ocean-climate interactions; and the



Eugene Rasmusson

National Climatic Data Center's desire to create a surface temperature data set for the tropical Pacific.

In 1969, the famed Norwegian scientist Jacob Bjerknes had linked together the El Niño phenomenon with the periodic shifting in atmospheric pressure patterns across the equatorial South Pacific, referred to as the "Southern Oscillation."

This is where the acronym ENSO comes from: the El Niño-Southern Oscillation. A warm episode is called an El Niño or warm ENSO and a cold episode is called a La Niña or a cold ENSO.

Rasmusson did extensive work creating composite maps of what a "typical" warm and cold ENSO episode features. It was in 1983, when a major warm ENSO episode triggered global weather havoc, that the term "El Niño" first entered the popular press.

In 1986, Rasmusson came to the University of Maryland's department of meteorology as a senior research associate. Early on, he gave frequent lectures and was in charge of the department seminar program. He also wrote proposals for scientific studies funded by the National Science Foundation and the Office of Global Programming. Today, Rasmusson is mostly retired from active research. He sits on numerous committees and recently served as president of the American Meteorological Society. His appointment as research professor emeritus is pending.

When asked why ENSO episodes have been so frequent and so intense in the past 20 years, Rasmusson readily concedes he doesn't know. Looking back on the historical record, he says, there was a similar period in the late 19th century.

Whether or not it is related to the phenomenon of global warming, he answers, "maybe yes, maybe no." He notes the Dust Bowl droughts were not associated with any ENSO episodes. He then recalls that dust storm winds across the prairie periodically knocked over the family out-house.

"Mother Nature is perverse," he says.

—RICHARD TODARO

for your interest

events • lectures • seminars • awards • etc.

Database Design

Faculty, staff and graduate student computer training is being offered in "Designing a Relational Database," Friday, Dec. 10, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. There is a fee of \$100 for training and text book.

This course, to be taught in lecture format, deals with the issues surrounding database design. The course is not specific to any one database application and is ideal for anyone preparing to create a database, for those preparing to transfer a database from one application to another, and for database designers and users who wish to have a firmer grasp of design considerations.

Seating is limited and web-based preregistration is required at

www.inform.umd.edu/ShortCourses. Questions about course content can be directed to oit-training@umail.umd.edu; questions about registration can be directed to the OIT training services coordinator at 405-0443.

Lilly Atlantic Conference

The fourth annual Lilly Atlantic Conference on College and University Teaching will take place April 7-9, 2000, at Towson University, and is cosponsored by Towson, Miami University and the University of Maryland. Proposals are due Dec. 1.

To get a copy of the call for proposals, contact Lisa Solomon at ls209@umail.umd.edu or 405-9980. Information is also available on the CTE web site at www.inform.umd.edu/CTE under the header upcoming special event.

Illness in High Office

Jerrold Post discusses "When Illness Strikes the Leader: The Psychopolitics of Illness in High Office" Tuesday, Dec. 7 from noon-1:30 p.m. in Room 1102 Taliaferro Hall. Post is professor of psychiatry, political psychology and international affairs at The George Washington University.

Post worked for the U.S. government



Poinsettia Sale

Just in time for the holiday season, the department of natural resource sciences and landscape architecture will host a poinsettia sale on Dec. 10 and 17 from 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. in the Harrison Lab at Route 1.

The sale will feature over 40 varieties with bract colors of white, different shades of red, pink and bicolors.

For more information, call 405-4376.

for more than two decades, founding and directing the Center for the Analysis of Personality & Political Behavior, which provided political psychology assessments of foreign leaders for the President and other senior officials for use in crisis situations and in preparation for summit meetings. A member of the editorial boards of *Political Psychology* and *Terrorism*, Post also has conducted research on crisis decision-making for the Carnegie Corporation of New York. Most recently, he is coauthor of "Political Paranoia: The Psychopolitics of Hatred" (Yale, 1997).

Drinks and cookies will be provided. Bring your own lunch. This event is sponsored by the Center for the Advanced Study of Leadership, a program of the Academy of Leadership. For more information, contact Scott Webster at 405-7920 or swebster@academy.umd.edu.

Bottled Water Blues Banished

The Office of Procurement and Supply recently received some complaints about missed

deliveries and billing problems from Crystal Springs, the university's bottled water contractor. The company took the university's complaints seriously and has assigned a new customer service representative, Jason Kolovich, who can be reached at 1-800-344-1618 x3104.

If you need to call Kolovich, have ready your department name and location, telephone number and the customer account number. If you have further problems or any concerns regarding this contract, call Tammy Yanulevich at 405-5830 or e-mail her at tyanul@purchase.umd.edu. She will be doing the contract administration for this bottled water contract.

Procurement is sorry for the inconvenience and appreciates customers calling the problem to procurement's attention.

Power Point Prep

Faculty and staff computer training in "Creating Presentations with MS PowerPoint (Office 97)," is being offered Tuesday, Dec. 7 and Thursday, Dec. 9, from 9 a.m.-noon both days. There is a fee of \$60 for training and course materials.

Participants with basic Windows and word processing skills will learn to create slide content outlines, incorporate clip art and graphics, animate slides, prepare audience handouts and speaker notes, and be acquainted with style and formatting techniques that will add power and appeal to slide presentations.

Seating is limited and web-based preregistration is required at www.inform.umd.edu/ShortCourses. Questions about course content can be directed to oit-training@umail.umd.edu; questions about registration can be directed to the OIT Training Services coordinator at 405-0443.

Orlando Furioso

Daniel Javitch, professor of comparative literature at New York University,

addresses "The Poetics of Variation in Orlando Furioso" Thursday, Dec. 2, at 3 p.m. in the Language House (St. Mary's Hall). All are welcome to attend.

The event is sponsored by the department of French and Italian. A reception follows the lecture.

For more information, contact Giuseppe Falvo at 405-4031 or falvo@umd5.umd.edu.

Putting Together a Web site

The Mini-Center for Teaching Interdisciplinary Studies of Culture and Society presents "How to Put Together a Web site," a basic HTML hands-on session, Tuesday, Nov. 30, at 6:30 p.m. in Room 4133 McKeldin Library.

For more information visit the Mini-Center's Web site at otal.umd.edu/amst/mini-center/ or contact the administrator Sandor Vegh at veghs@otal.umd.edu

Ethical Conflicts Resolved

The campus community is invited to participate in a seminar titled "Resolving Ethical Conflicts in Professional Practice," featuring Civil Engineering Professor Richard McCuen Friday, Dec. 3, from 2-4 p.m., in the ITV Building. The goal of this course is to develop your awareness of the complexity and significance of value conflicts in professional environments and to demonstrate an optimum approach to resolving such conflicts. The approach for resolving ethical conflicts recommended by the Institute for Professional Practice will be introduced

and illustrated using case studies, including a videotape of a case study of an entry-level professional confronted by a value conflict in the workplace.

For a detailed course description and registration form call 405-4905 with your name, phone and fax number. Cost for the university community is \$45 per person.

National Players' "Julius Caesar" Opens Dec. 2

The National Players will present William Shakespeare's murderous tale of greed and deception, "Julius Caesar," Dec. 2-5. Performances of the classic play will be held in Tawes Theatre Dec. 2-4 at 8 p.m. and Dec. 5 at 2 p.m.

One of Shakespeare's most frequently performed plays, "Julius Caesar" exposes a dark world of political betrayal in which assassins and avengers misguidedly seek justice. "Behind the pomp and grandeur of any empire or organization are people," said Mitchell Hebert, director of "Julius Caesar." "People who place their trust in the leadership of others. What happens when this trust is violated? To what ends will others go to seek justice? Just how fragile is the fabric of love that holds a friendship or marriage together? In Julius Caesar, we examine those questions."

Tickets are \$10 standard admission, \$7 for senior citizens, students, and standard groups, and \$5 for senior citizen and student groups. Tickets are available through mail order now or by phone charge beginning Nov. 22. For reservations or additional information, call the Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center Ticket Office at (301) 405-7847 weekdays from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

